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- (c) determining the three-dimensional structure of the targeted RNA, including the position of the critical site relative to the major and minor grooves; determining the sequence of nucleotides and structure flanking the critical site in the targeted ribonucleic acid that is specific to the critical region of the ribonucleic acid to be inhibited and within the minor groove; and
- (e) synthesizing compounds that will bind specifically to the critical site within the minor groove of the targeted ribonucleic acid.

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REMARKS

This present application is a file wrapper continuation application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 07/586,543 and is directed to a method and compounds for inhibiting targeted RNA function. In accordance with the method, compounds are designed that bind to nucleotides exposed on the surface of the minor groove of the targeted RNA molecules. The presence of the compound within the minor groove impairs functions essential to the survival of the RNA molecule.

Applicant has amended claim 1 for purposes of clarification. Support for this amendment is found in the specification at page